

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY BERLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3758

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

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AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

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AMEMBASSY WARSAW

USMISSION USBERLIN UNN

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C O N F I D E N T I A L BERLIN 7259

USDOC FOR BEWT

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: EGEN, GE

SUBJECT: GDR PLANNING CHIEF'S ADDRESS TO CENTRAL COMMITTEE PLENUM

1. SPEAKING ON THE SECOND DAY OF THE 4TH SED PLENUM, STATE PLANNING COMMISSION CHAIRMAN GERHARD SCHUERER DELIVERED THE DAY'S MAIN ADDRESS, ON THE SUBJECT OF THE 1976-80 FIVE YEAR PLAN AND THE 1977 PLAN, DRAFTS OF WHICH WERE APPROVED BY THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE FOLLOWING SCHUERER'S REPORT.

2. SCHUERER'S REMARKS AS CARRIED IN NEUES DEUTSCHLAND DECEMBER 10 WERE RELATIVELY BRIEF AND FAIRLY ANODYNE, "UNITY OF SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC POLICY" FIRST ARTICULATED AT THE 8TH SED PARTY CONGRESS IN 1971; THE LEADERSHIP'S COMMITMENT TO AN IMPROVED LIVING STANDARD FOR THE POPULATION, OF WHICH HOUSING IS THE NUCLEUS; AND THE NEED TO RAISE PRODUCTIVITY AND TO ACCELERATE THE APPLI-
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CATION OF TECHNOLOGICAL ADVANCES.

3. CONCRETE TARGETS FOR FIVE YEAR PLAN GROWTH OF NATIONAL INCOME, INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION, AND PRODCUTIVITY GROWTH HEW TO THE LOWER EDGE OF THE RANGES FIRST ANNOUNCED LAST JANUARY (BERLIN 5130); WHILE GOALS FOR CONSTRUCTION, RETAIL TRADE, AND, SOMEWHAT SURPRISINGLY, CROP PRODUCTION, FALL TOWARD THE HIGHER MARGIN.

4. DESPITE THE TITLE OF SCHUERER'S REPORT, THERE WAS VIRTUALLY NOTHING SAID ABOUT THE 1977 PLAN, ABOUT WHICH WE WILL APPARENTLY LEARN MORE AFTER ITS APPROVAL BY THE VOLKSKAMMER, WHICH WE EXPECT TO SIT NEXT WEEK.
POLANSKY

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